

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00375 160913Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 EB-08 SSO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /092 W
-----004113 160922Z /23

P R 160856Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4143
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 0375

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MU PEPR EAIR UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET OVERFLIGHTS OF OMAN

REF: MUSCAT 0366 (NOTAL)

1. OMANIS ARE RATHER EXERCISED ABOUT OVERFLIGHTS
MENTIONED REFTEL, AS DEMONSTRATED BY FACT AMBASSADOR
WAS CALLED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AGAIN MARCH 16.
UNDERSEC AL-ALAWI SAID OMAN CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES
HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED CABLE TO ICAO IN MONTREAL A
PROTEST MESSAGE ASKING THAT IT BE PASSED TO SOVIET
UNION. BUT OMANGOV WANTS TO FIND BETTER CHANNEL
THAN THAT. ALAWI ASKED IF USG WOULD BE WILLING TO PASS
TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT A MESSAGE OUTLINING ITS OBJECTIONS
TO RUSSIAN OVERFLIGHTS WHICH HAVE NEITHER SOUGHT NOT
RECEIVED PERMISSION. ALSO, OMANGOV REQUESTS
OUR RECOMMENDATIONS, BASED ON OUR LONG EXPERIENCE IN
THESE MATTERS, AS TO POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE OMANI COURSES
OF ACTION.

2. OUR QUESTIONING BROUGHT OUT DETAILS (WHICH OMAN
RECEIVED FROM BAHRAIN FIR) OF FOLLOWING 2 EPISODES.
ALAWI THOUGHT THERE HAD BEEN ONE OR TWO OTHER
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SIMILAR OVERFLIGHTS.

- A. ON MARCH 2, AEROFLOT FLIGHT NO. SU-545,
AN IL-62 AIRCRAFT, ON ROUTE MOSCOW-BAHRAIN-
DUBAI-COLOMBO, OVERFLEW MASIRAH AND OTHER
OMAN TERRITORY IN EARLY AFTERNOON. IT USED
BAHRAIN FIR ROUTE NO. 21.
- B. ON MARCH 7, AEROFLOT FLIGHT NO SU-539,

ALSO AN IL-62 ON SAME ROUTE, OVERFLEW MASIRAH
IN EARLY AFTERNOON USING BAHRAIN FIR ROUTE
NO. 21.

3. REQUEST EXPEDITIOUS REPLY.

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Message Attributes

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